

NOTICE OF RULE MAKING

Pursuant to one or more of the following Arkansas Codes, 20-76-201(13), 20-10-211(a), 20-10-203(b), 20-76-433, 20-77-102, 20-77-107, 20-77-603, 25-10-129, the Director of the Division of Medical Services hereby issues the following proposed changes in the Medical Assistance Program under Title XIX of the Social Security Act:

Effective for dates of service on and after February 1, 2005, Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc. (AFMC) will process benefit extension requests from the Medicaid provider types named below for evaluation and management (E&M) procedures, FQHC and RHC encounters, outpatient hospital non-emergency visits, and for laboratory, X-ray and machine test procedures. Affected provider types are: Ambulatory Surgical Center, Certified Nurse-Midwife, Critical Access Hospital, Federally Qualified Health Center, Independent Laboratory, Nurse Practitioner, Visual Care (Optometrist), Physician, Rehabilitative Hospital and Rural Health Clinic.

The proposed Arkansas Medicaid State Plan Amendment to providers is available for review at the Division of Medical Services, Program Planning and Development, 2nd floor Donaghey Plaza South Building, 7th and Main Streets, P. O. Box 1437, Slot S295, Little Rock, Arkansas 72203-1437. You may also access it on the Medicaid website (www.medicaid.state.ar.us), and download it from the "Proposed Rules for Public Comment" section of the website's *General* menu. **Since this proposed rule is identical for the provider types named above, it is on the website only in the form of an update transmittal for the Physician/CRNA/Independent Lab/Radiation Therapy Center Provider Manual. Upon its approval, all affected provider types will receive provider manual update transmittals.** Policy accessed from this location will be watermarked with the word "Proposed". All comments must be submitted in writing no later than January 4, 2005.

If you need this material in a different format, such as large print, contact our Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator at 682-6789 or 1-877-708-8191. Both telephone numbers are voice and TDD.

The Arkansas Department of Human Services is in compliance with Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act and is operated, managed and delivers services without regard to religion, disability, political affiliation, veteran status, age, race, color or national origin. **4500396267 EL**

Roy Jeffus, Director
Division of Medical Services

Date: December 6 – December 8, 2004